

How can I help my child at home?

Reading & Writing

- Provide time and space for your child to read independently, free from distractions such as television/video games. Read as a family.
- Provide books, magazines, or other materials about topics that would motivate your child to read.
- Have your child write letters and/or cards to family and friends, telling about an important event in their life, recent trip, or something important to them. Include pictures or graphics to make this a fun activity.

Mathematics

- Play math games with your child. For example, "I'm thinking of a number. It has 5 tens, 3 hundreds, and 4 ones. What is the number? 354."
- Have your child explain the relationship between different numbers without counting. For example, 147 is 47 more than 100 and three less than 150.
- Talk about addition as being the idea that you take one part to another part and create a new whole. For example: $2 \text{ (part)} + 3 \text{ (part)} = 5 \text{ (whole)}$
- Talk about subtraction as the idea that you take a whole and break it into its parts. For example: $5 \text{ (whole)} - 3 \text{ (part)} = 2 \text{ (part)}$
- Praise your child when he or she makes an effort. Share in the excitement when your child solves a problem or understands something for the first time.

Manchester Public Schools

45 North School Street, Manchester, CT 06042

Office of the Superintendent: (860) 647-3441

Office of Curriculum & Instruction: (860) 647-3447

Pupil Personnel Services: (860) 647-3448

<http://www.mpspride.org>

Bowers Elementary School

141 Princeton Street, Manchester, CT 06042
(860) 647-3313

Buckley Elementary School

250 Vernon Street, Manchester, CT 06042
(860) 647-3302

Highland Park Elementary School

397 Porter Street, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3430

Keeney Elementary School

179 Keeney Street, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3354

Martin Elementary School

140 Dartmouth Road, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3367

Robertson Elementary School

65 North School Street, Manchester, CT 06042
(860) 647-3372

Verplanck Elementary School

126 Olcott Street, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3383

Waddell Elementary School

163 Broad Street, Manchester, CT 06042
(860) 647-3392

Washington Elementary School

94 Cedar Street, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3332

Elisabeth M. Bennet Academy

1151 Main Street, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3571

Illing Middle School

227 East Middle Turnpike, Manchester, CT 06042
(860) 647-3400

Manchester High School

134 East Middle Turnpike, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3521

Bentley Alternative Education

134 East Middle Turnpike, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3342

Manchester Regional Academy

665 Wetherell Street, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3495

Manchester Preschool Center

60 Washington Street, Manchester, CT 06042
(860) 647-3502



A Parent Guide to District Curriculum



Grade 2

Adapted from Council of Great City Schools' Parent Roadmaps
<http://www.cgcs.org>

Initiatives and Changes

What are the Common Core State Standards?

The Common Core State Standards, adopted by Connecticut's State Board of Education in 2010, provide teachers, students and families with expectations of what students should know and be able to do at each grade level. These standards are designed to ensure that students graduate from high school and are prepared to meet the demands of college and the workforce.

What are the Common Core Shifts for English Language Arts and Mathematics?

English Language Arts:

- Regular independent reading using challenging fiction and non-fiction pieces.
- Effectively communicating (writing/speaking), especially arguing an idea or opinion supported by evidence.
- Applying reading skills to acquire knowledge of the world through non-fiction text.

Mathematics:

- Students are to learn more, but about fewer topics.
- Students will be instructed in highly rigorous topics.
- Students will be given instruction, practice and time to more deeply understand these topics.
- Knowledge and skills are strengthened within each grade and from grade to grade.
- Students will show their work, explain their thinking and defend their answers.

District Workshop Model

Manchester Public Schools is embracing the workshop model in the classroom, starting in the 2014-2015 school year, in grades K-8. Workshop is an approach to teaching major skills (math, writing, reading) in which teachers model concepts and skills, provide structured small group lessons, and allow for independent practice.

WHAT WILL MY CHILD LEARN IN...

English Language Arts

In grade two, your child will continue to build important reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Children will think, talk, and write about what they read in variety of texts, such as stories, books, articles, and other sources of information including the Internet. Activities in these areas will include:

Parts to a Text or Story: Who, what, where, when, why, and how questions about stories; parts of a story (beginning, middle, end); What is point of view? How is each character unique? What is the main idea in the texts about history, social studies, or science?

Rules of Spoken and Written English: past tense; correct use for capital letters in holidays, product names, geographic names; correct punctuation use for commas and apostrophes; parts of speech

Writing: Writing to tell a story (short series of events and describing actions, thoughts, and feelings, including a clear beginning, middle and end); defend opinions (using important details and examples to support a position); or explain a process or idea (how to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich)

Mathematics

In grade two, your child will extend their understanding of place value to the hundreds place and use this understanding to solve word problems. Your child will continue to work on addition and subtraction skills, adding and subtracting numbers up to 20 from memory and working with numbers up to 100. Activities in these areas will include:

Addition and Subtraction: Adding and subtracting numbers up to 20 from memory; quickly adding or subtracting 10 or 100 from a given number; counting within 1000; skip counting by 5's, 10's and 100's; adding and subtracting 3 digit numbers; writing equations to show addition of equal numbers; solving one or two step word problems involving addition and subtraction

Place Value: Understanding what the different digits mean in a three-digit number; using place value to add and subtract

Measurement: Measuring lengths of objects in standard units such as inches and centimeters; generating data and comparing using picture graphs and bar graphs

Money: Solving problems using coins and dollar bills

Time: Tell and write time from an analog clock and a digital clock to the nearest five minutes

Shapes: Breaking up a rectangle into same-size squares; dividing circles and rectangles into halves, thirds, or fourths